

flic Murders of Crispus and Fausta 251

id the true Cross stood at once revealed to the loring worship of all believers. In the wood were *ro* nails. Helena had them carefully sent to Con-
antine, and he, we are told, had one of them in-rtcd—as something far more precious than rubies •in the Imperial crown, while from the other he shioned a bit for his horse.

Such is the legend in its most complete form. It rectly associates the finding of the Cross with elena's visit to Jerusalem, and attributes also to *r the magnificent church which was raised in the tter part of the reign of Constantino on the site

the Holy Sepulchre. But it must also be added at the first historical mention of the ** Invention "

seventy years after the discovery was supposed

have taken place, Eusebius, in describing llel-ia\s pilgrimage,* known nothing of the finding of c Cross, and, while he speaks of the discovery

the Sepulchre, he docs not associate it with Hcl-ia, though he attributes to her piety the new ,urch at Bethlehem, It wan Gwstantine, according

Eusebius, who built the church on the site of the oly Sepulchre, and beautified the cave of lichthlc* :m and the site of the* Ascension, but of the finding

the Cross there is not a word—a significant silence, lich can only mean that the legend was not yet rrent when Kusebius composed his "Life" of wstantine. What cannot well be doubted is that e site of the Sepulchre was discovered and cleared

Constantino's reign. The Emperor built upon one of his finest churches, but popular tradition,

* l)t l-'i/ii Ciw/,» **iii**,, |», 44, jr<y,